

AMENDMENT TO CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Currently amended) A highly palatable ductile chewable veterinary composition comprising (A) an effective amount of one or more ingredients that are active against animal pests, pathogens or animal diseases; (B) meat flavoring; (C) partially gelatinized starch; (D) a softener; and (E) up to about 9% water.

Claim 2. (Currently Amended) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim 1 wherein the animal disease ~~comprises~~ is selected from the group consisting of viral infections, [[or]] bacterial infections, behavioral disorders, inflammatory diseases, and auto-immune diseases.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim 1 ~~comprising wherein said meat flavoring is about 20 to about 30 % (w/w) of a natural meat flavoring.~~

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim ~~[[4]]~~ 3 wherein the natural meat flavoring comprises about 20 to about 55 % (w/w) fat.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim 1 ~~comprising wherein said partially gelatinized starch is about 25 to about 70 % (w/w) of partially gelatinized starch.~~

Claim 6. (Currently amended) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim 5 wherein the partially gelatinized starch comprises about 12 to about 17 % (w/w) of gelatinized starch.

Claim 7. (Currently Amended) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim 1 ~~comprising wherein said softener is about 10 to about 20 % (w/w) of a softener, based upon the weight of the partially gelatinized starch.~~

Claim 8. (Original) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim 7 wherein the softener is selected from the group consisting of glycerol, polyethylene glycol and polypropylene glycol.

Claim 9. (Currently Amended) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim 1 ~~comprising wherein said water is about 4 to about 6 % (w/w) of water.~~

Claim 10. (Currently Amended) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim 1 wherein the animal pests are selected from the group consisting of external animal parasites.

international animal parasites, and a combination of external and internal animal parasites
~~external animal parasites or internal animal parasites or both.~~

Claim 11. (Currently amended) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim 1 comprising about 1 to about 10 % (w/w) of a sweetener.

Claim 12. (Currently amended) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim 1 comprising 0 to about 3.5 % (w/w) of an antioxidant.

Claim 13. (Currently amended) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim 1 comprising 0 to about 5 % (w/w) of a coloring agent.

Claim 14. (Currently amended) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim 1 comprising 0 to about 4% (w/w) of sodium chloride.

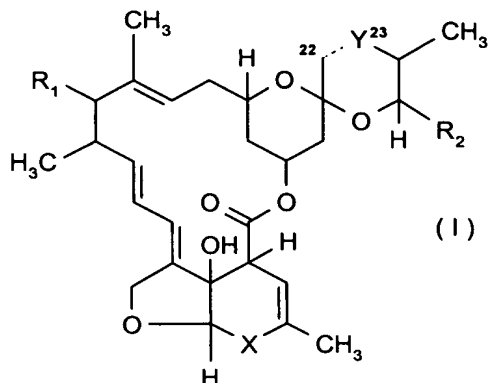
Claim 15. (Currently Amended) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim 1 ~~comprising an parasiticidally effective amount of an ecto-parasiticide, an endo-parasiticide, an endectocide or of a combination of a parasiticide selected from the group consisting of an ecto-parasiticide, an endo-parasiticide and an endectocide~~ wherein the ingredient is an effective amount of a parasiticide selected from the group consisting of an eco-parasiticide, an endo-parasiticide, an endectocide, a combination of an eco-parasiticide and an endo-parasiticide, a combination of an eco-parasiticide and an endectocide, a combination of an endo-parasiticide and an endectocide, and a combination of an eco-parasiticide, an endo-parasiticide and an endectocide.

Claim 16. (Original) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim 15 wherein the ecto-parasiticide is active against insects, members of the order Acarina or insects and members of the order Acarina.

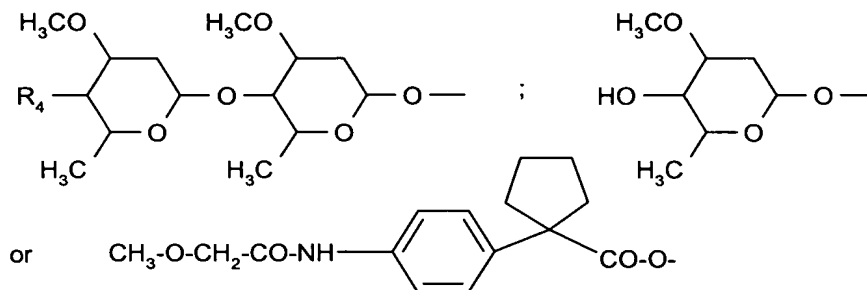
Claim 17. (Original) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim 16 wherein the ecto-parasiticide is an insecticide which is either an insect adulticides or insect growth regulators.

Claim 18. (Currently Amended) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim 15 ~~comprising an parasiticidally effective amount of an endo-parasiticide or endectocide~~ wherein said parasiticide is selected from the group consisting of macrocyclic lactones, benzimidazoles, pro-benzimidazoles, imidazothiazoles, tetrahydropyrimidines, organophosphates and piperazines.

Claim 19. (Currently Amended) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim 18 comprising wherein said parasiticide is an effective amount of a natural or chemically modified macrocyclic lactone of formula (I)

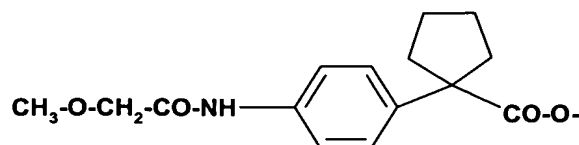


wherein X is $-\text{C}(\text{H})(\text{OH})-$; $-\text{C}(\text{O})-$; or $-\text{C}(=\text{N}-\text{OH})-$; Y is $-\text{C}(\text{H}_2)-$; $=\text{C}(\text{H})-$; $-\text{C}(\text{H})(\text{OH})-$; or $-\text{C}(=\text{N}-\text{OCH}_3)-$; R_1 is hydrogen or one of radicals



R_4 is hydroxyl, $-\text{NH}-\text{CH}_3$ or $-\text{NH}-\text{OCH}_3$; R_2 is hydrogen, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{C}_2\text{H}_5$, $-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)-\text{C}_2\text{H}_5$, $-\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)=\text{CH}-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ or cyclohexyl; and if the bond between atoms 22 and 23 represents a double bond the carbon atom in 23-position is unsubstituted so that Y is $=\text{C}(\text{H})-$, or if the bond between atoms 22 and 23 is a single bond the carbon atom in 23-position is unsubstituted or substituted by hydroxy or by the group $=\text{N}-\text{O}-\text{CH}_3$ so that Y is $-\text{C}(\text{H}_2)-$; $-\text{C}(\text{H})(\text{OH})-$; or $-\text{C}(=\text{N}-\text{OCH}_3)-$; in free form or in the form of a physiologically acceptable salt.

Claim 20. (Original) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim 19 wherein the macrocyclic lactone is a compound of the formula (I) wherein X is $-\text{C}(\text{H})(\text{OH})-$; Y is $-\text{C}(\text{H}_2)-$; R_1 is the radical



R_2 is $-\text{CH}_3$ or C_2H_5 , and the bond between atoms 22 and 23 represents a single bond.

Claim 21. (Currently amended) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim [[19]] 18 wherein the macrocyclic lactone is selected from the group consisting of avermectins, milbemycins, derivatives of avermectins, and derivatives of milbemycins thereof, in free form or in the form of a physiologically acceptable salt.

Claim 22. (Currently amended) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim [[21]] 18 wherein the macrocyclic lactone is selected from the group consisting of Ivermectin, Doramectin, Moxidectin, Selamectin, Enamectin, Eprinomectin, Milbemectin, Abamectin, Milbemycin oxime, Nemadectin, and a derivative thereof, in free form or in the form of a physiologically acceptable salt.

Claim 23. (Original) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim 18 comprising an effective amount of a macrocyclic lactone in combination with an effective amount of an anthelmintic selected from the group consisting of Albendazole, Clorsulon, Cydectin, Diethylcarbamazine, Febantel, Fenbendazole, Haloxon, Levamisole, Mebendazole, Morantel, Oxiclozanide, Oxibendazole, Oxfendazole, Oxfendazole, Oxamniquine, Pyrantel, Piperazine, Praziquantel, Thiabendazole, Tetramisole, Trichlorfon, Thiabendazole, and a derivative thereof.

Claim 24. (Original) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim 18 comprising additionally an effective amount of an insecticide, acaricide or an insecticide and an acaricide.

Claim 25. (Currently amended) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim 1 ~~comprising~~ wherein said one or more ingredients are an effective amount of milbemycin oxime and praziquantel.

Claim 26. (Currently amended) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim 1 ~~comprising~~ wherein said one or more ingredients are an effective amount of lufenuron, praziquantel and milbemycin oxime.

Claim 27. (Currently amended) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim 1 ~~comprising~~ wherein said ingredient is an effective amount of cyclosporin.

Claim 28. (Currently amended) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim 1 ~~comprising~~ wherein said ingredient is an effective amount of an antimicrobial selected from the group consisting of a penicillin, tetracycline, sulfonamide, cephalosporin, cephamycin, aminoglucosid, trimethoprim, dimetridazole, erythromycin, framycetin, fruazolidone, pleuromutilin, streptomycin and a compound that is active against protozoa.

Claim 29. (Currently amended) A chewable veterinary composition according to claim 1 ~~comprising wherein said ingredient is~~ an effective amount of a compound that is active against one or more behavioral disorders including separation worry ~~[[or]]~~ and travel sickness of dogs and cats.

Claim 30. (Currently amended) ~~Process~~ A method for the production of a highly palatable ductile chewable veterinary composition of claim 1, comprising (i) feeding the hopper of an extruder with an effective amount of one or more ingredients that are active against animal pests, pathogens or animal diseases; meat flavoring; partially gelatinized starch; a softener; and up to about 9% (w/w) of water, (ii) cooling constantly down the mixture of active ingredients and carriers so that the temperature of the extrudate that leaves the tip of the extruder does during the whole extrusion process at no time exceed 40°C, (iii) pressing the extrudate through a die that is decisive for the shape of the chewable product, and (iv) cutting the extrudate that leaves the extruder into equal pieces.

Claim 31. (Currently amended) ~~Process~~ The method according to claim 30 wherein the hopper of the extruder is fed continuously and simultaneously with pre-mixture (1) and pre-mixture (2), wherein pre-mixture (1) ~~consist of~~ comprises a homogenized mixture of one or more active ingredients and partially gelatinized starch, and pre-mixture (2) ~~consists of~~ comprises a homogenized mixture of meat flavoring, a softener and optionally ~~[[of]]~~ a carrier selected from the group consisting of a sweetener, softener, an antioxidant, a coloring agent and sodium chloride.

Claim 32. (Currently amended) ~~Process~~ The method according to claim 30 wherein the extruder is cooled down below room temperature.

Claim 33. (Currently amended) Method of controlling nonhuman animal pests or nonhuman animal pathogens or of curing or preventing nonhuman animals diseases in an animal in need of said controlling or curing or preventing thereof comprising feeding an animal with a palatable ductile chewable veterinary composition according to claim 1.

Claim 34. (Original) Method according to claim 33, wherein the palatable ductile chewable veterinary composition consist of one chewable portion containing an effective amount of a compound or mixture of compounds capable of controlling nonhuman animal pests or nonhuman animal pathogens or of curing or preventing nonhuman animals diseases.

Claim 35. (Original) Method according to claim 34 wherein the amount of active ingredient is adjusted to the bodyweight of the nonhuman animal that is in need of the treatment.

Claim 36. (Cancelled)

Claim 37. (Currently amended) [[Use]] The method according to claim ~~36~~ comprising 33 wherein said meat flavoring comprises about 20 to about 30 % (w/w) of a natural meat flavoring.

Claim 38. (Currently amended) [[Use]] The method according to claim 37 wherein the natural meat flavoring comprises about 20 to about 55 % (w/w) fat.

Claim 39. (Currently amended) [[Use]] The method according to claim ~~36~~ comprising 33 wherein said partially gelatinized starch is about 25 to about 70 % (w/w) of partially gelatinized starch.

Claim 40. (Currently amended) [[Use]] The method according to claim 39 wherein the partially gelatinized starch comprises about 12 to about 17 % (w/w) of gelatinized starch.

Claim 41. (Currently amended) [[Use]] The method according to claim ~~26~~ comprising 33 wherein said softener is about 10 to about 20 % (w/w) of a softener, based upon the weight of the partially gelatinized starch.

Claim 42. (Currently amended) [[Use]] The method according to claim ~~[[40]]~~ 41 wherein the softener is selected from the group consisting of glycerol, polyethylene glycol and polypropylene glycol.

Claim 43. (Currently amended) [[Use]] The method according to claim ~~36~~ comprising 33 wherein said water is about 3 to about 7 % (w/w) of water.

Claim 44. (Currently amended) [[Use]] The method according to claim ~~[[36]]~~ 33 wherein the animal pests are external animal parasites or internal animal parasites or both.

Claim 45. (Currently amended) [[Use]] The method according to claim ~~[[36]]~~ 33 comprising about 1 to about 10 % (w/w) of a sweetener.

Claim 46. (Currently amended) [[Use]] The method according to claim ~~[[36]]~~ 33 comprising 0 to about 3.5 % (w/w) of an antioxidant.

Claim 47. (Currently amended) [[Use]] The method according to claim ~~[[36]]~~ 33 comprising 0 to about 5 % (w/w) of a coloring agent.

Claim 48. (Currently amended) ~~[[Use]]~~ The method according to claim ~~[[36]]~~ 33 comprising 0 to about 4% (w/w) of sodium chloride.

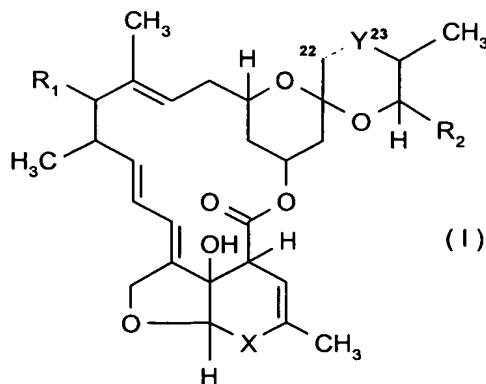
Claim 49. (Currently amended) ~~[[Use]]~~ The method according to claim ~~36~~ 33 ~~comprising an parasitically effective amount of an ecto-parasiticide, an endo-parasiticide, an endectocide or of a combination of a parasiticide selected from the group consisting of an ecto-parasiticide, an endo-parasiticide and an endectocide~~ wherein the ingredient is an effective amount of a parasiticide selected from the group consisting of an eco-parasiticide, an endo-parasiticide, an endectocide, a combination of an eco-parasiticide and an endo-parasiticide, a combination of an eco-parasiticide and an endectocide, a combination of an endo-parasiticide and an endectocide, and a combination of an eco-parasiticide, an endo-parasiticide and an endectocide.

Claim 50. (Currently amended) ~~[[Use]]~~ The method according to claim ~~[[36]]~~ 49 wherein the ecto-parasiticide is active against insects, members of the order Acarina or insects and members of the order Acarina.

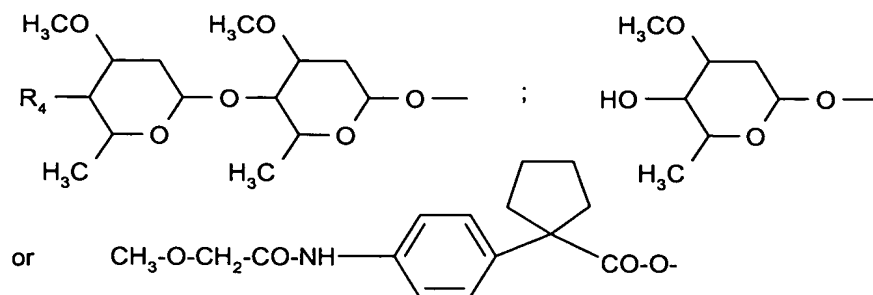
Claim 51. (Currently amended) ~~[[Use]]~~ The method according to claim ~~[[36]]~~ 49 wherein the ecto-parasiticide is an insecticide which is either an insect adulticides or insect growth regulators.

Claim 52. (Currently amended) ~~[[Use]]~~ The method according to claim ~~36~~ 49 ~~comprising an parasitically effective amount of an endo-parasiticide or endectocide~~ wherein said parasiticide is selected from the group consisting of macrocyclic lactones, benzimidazoles, pro-benzimidazoles, imidazothiazoles, tetrahydropyrimidines, organophosphates and piperazines.

Claim 53. (Currently amended) ~~[[Use]]~~ The method according to claim ~~36~~ 52 ~~comprising~~ wherein said macrocyclic lactone is an effective amount of a natural or chemically modified macrocyclic lactone of formula (I)

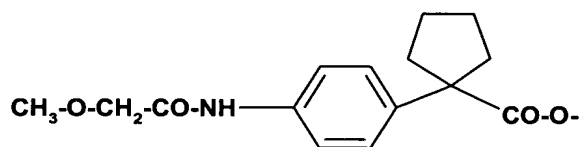


wherein X is -C(H)(OH)- ; -C(O)- ; or -C(=N-OH)-; Y is -C(H₂)- ; =C(H)- ; -C(H)(OH)- ; or -C(=N-OCH₃)-; R₁ is hydrogen or one of radicals.



R₄ is hydroxyl, -NH-CH₃ or -NH-OCH₃; R₂ is hydrogen, -CH₃, -C₂H₅, -CH(CH₃)-CH₃, -CH(CH₃)-C₂H₅, -C(CH₃)=CH-CH(CH₃)₂ or cyclohexyl; and if the bond between atoms 22 and 23 represents a double bond the carbon atom in 23-position is unsubstituted so that Y is =C(H)- , or if is the bond between atoms 22 and 23 is a single bond the carbon atom in 23-position is unsubstituted or substituted by hydroxy or by the group =N-O-CH₃ so that Y is -C(H₂)-; -C(H)(OH)- ; or -C(=N-OCH₃)-; in free form or in the form of a physiologically acceptable salt.

Claim 54. (Currently amended) [[Use]] The method according to claim 53 wherein the macrocyclic lactone is a compound of the formula (I) wherein X is -C(H)(OH)- ; Y is -C(H₂)-; R₁ is the radical



R₂ is -CH₃ or C₂H₅, and the bond between atoms 22 and 23 represents a single bond.

Claim 55. (Currently amended) [[Use]] The method according to claim [[49]] 52 wherein the ~~endecticide is a~~ macrocyclic lactone is selected from the group consisting of avermectins, milbemycins, derivatives of avermectins, and derivatives thereof of milbemycins, in free form or in the form of a physiologically acceptable salt.

Claim 56. (Currently amended) [[Use]] The method according to claim [[53]] 52 wherein the macrocyclic lactone is selected from the group consisting of Ivermectin, Doramectin, Moxidectin, Selamectin, Emamectin, Eprinomectin, Milbemectin, Abamectin, Milbemycin oxime, Nemadectin, and a derivative thereof, in free form or in the form of a physiologically acceptable salt.

Claim 57. (Currently amended) ~~[[Use]]~~ The method according to claim 49 ~~comprising wherein~~ said parasiticide is an effective amount of a macrocyclic lactone in combination with an effective amount of an anthelmintic selected from the group consisting of Albendazole, Clorsulon, Cydectin, Diethylcarbamazine, Febantel, Fenbendazole, Haloxon, Levamisole, Mebendazole, Morantel, Oxyclozanide, Oxibendazole, Oxfendazole, Oxfendazole, Oxamniquine, Pyrantel, Piperazine, Praziquantel, Thiabendazole, Tetramisole, Trichlorfon, Thiabendazole, and a derivative thereof.

Claim 58. (Currently amended) ~~[[Use]]~~ The method according to claim 49 ~~comprising wherein~~ in addition to an endo-parasiticide or an endecticide, said ingredient further comprises an effective amount of an insecticide, acaricide or an insecticide and an acaricide.

Claim 59. (Currently amended) ~~[[Use]]~~ The method according to claim 36 ~~comprising 33 wherein~~ said ingredient is an effective amount of milbemycin oxime and praziquantel.

Claim 60. (Currently amended) ~~[[Use]]~~ The method according to claim 36 ~~comprising 33 wherein~~ said ingredient is an effective amount of lufenuron, praziquantel and milbemycin oxime.

Claim 61. (Currently amended) ~~[[Use]]~~ The method according to claim 36 ~~comprising 33 wherein~~ said ingredient is an effective amount of cyclosporin.

Claim 62. (Currently amended) ~~[[Use]]~~ The method according to claim 36 ~~comprising 33 wherein~~ said ingredient is an effective amount of an antimicrobial selected from the group consisting of a penicillin, tetracycline, sulfonamide, cephalosporin, cephamycin, aminoglycosid, trimethoprim, dimetridazole, erythromycin, framycetin, fruazolidone, pleuromutilin, streptomycin and a compound that is active against protozoa.

Claim 63. (Currently amended) ~~[[Use]]~~ The method according to claim 36 ~~comprising 33 wherein~~ said ingredient is an effective amount of a compound that is active against one or more behavioral disorders including separation worry ~~[[or]]~~ and travel sickness of dogs and cats.

Claim 64. (Cancelled)